

Art Unit: 1797

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Yuezhong Feng on 01/29/10.

The application has been amended as follows:

Title (new): "Method for performing crystallization and reactions in pressure-driven fluid plugs".

In claims 1, 2, step a. replace [such that] with -- wherein -- and after "a mixture thereof is" and before "sufficient" insert -- calculated to be --;

In claim 3, step a. replace [such that] with -- wherein -- and after "a mixture of the first fluids is" and before "sufficient" insert -- calculated to be --;

In claim 80, step a. replace [such that] with -- wherein -- and after "a mixture of the first and second fluids is" and before "sufficient" insert -- calculated to be --.

2. **Claims 1-7, 9, 11-15, 17, 19, 21-24, 26-30, 34, 36, 42-43, 51-52, 60-62 and 75-84** are allowed. New numbering of claims is 1 through 42.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not teach or fairly suggest that the capillary number of the interface between the carrier fluid and immiscible fluids should be *calculated* to be sufficient enough to form the plugs.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Yelena G. Gakh, Ph.D. whose telephone number is (571) 272-1257. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 am - 6:00 pm.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vickie Y. Kim can be reached on (571) 272-0579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Yelena G. Gakh/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1797

1/30/2010